

Message

From: Densberger, Matthew@ARB [Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov]
Sent: 8/15/2019 4:17:08 PM
To: Jim McHargue [jmchargue@amadorgov.org]
CC: Herminia Perry [hperry@amadorgov.org]; Smith, Noah [SMITH.NOAH@EPA.GOV]; Xu, Jin@ARB [jin.xu@arb.ca.gov]; ray.kapahi@gmail.com; Stauffer, Panah [Stauffer.Panah@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: URGENT: Amador Ozone Emergency Episode Plan

Jim,

I am actively reaching out to our attorney's for their opinion on whether this would satisfy the public notice requirements. I'll call you as soon as I hear something.

Best regards,
Matthew

From: Jim McHargue <jmchargue@amadorgov.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2019 8:41 AM
To: Stauffer, Panah <Stauffer.Panah@epa.gov>
Cc: Densberger, Matthew@ARB <Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov>; Herminia Perry <hperry@amadorgov.org>; Smith, Noah <SMITH.NOAH@epa.gov>; Xu, Jin@ARB <jin.xu@arb.ca.gov>; ray.kapahi@gmail.com
Subject: Re: URGENT: Amador Ozone Emergency Episode Plan

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Panah,

Our original publish date for the EEP was July 18, 2019. The document was updated with Ray Kapahi's changes from CARB/EPA comments on August 1, 2019. We planned on taking public comments, including those from CARB/EPA, and address them at our Board meeting for approval of the document on August 20, 2019.

If this does not meet the noticing requirements, then we will re-publish the document for public comment and approval at our October 15, 2019, Board meeting.

Thanks, Jim

On Wed, Aug 14, 2019 at 4:38 PM Stauffer, Panah <Stauffer.Panah@epa.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Jim and Herminia!

Basically, I'm just trying to get a sense of how the public notice process usually works for Amador Air District (for any other SIP submittals, like rules or nonattainment plans). Do you usually put out a newspaper notice that refers readers to your website? And is that how people get informed that they have the opportunity to request a public hearing or that there will be a public hearing (I assume that's the board meeting)? If that information about how to comment and attend/request a hearing is online, you can just point me to it.

Thanks very much again for your help.

Best,

Panah

Panah Stauffer

Air Division (AIR-2)

US EPA Region 9

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

415-972-3247

From: Jim McHargue <jmchargue@amadorgov.org>

Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2019 4:27 PM

To: Stauffer, Panah <Stauffer.Panah@epa.gov>

Cc: Densberger, Matthew@ARB <Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov>; ray.kapahi@gmail.com; Herminia Perry <hperry@amadorgov.org>; Xu, Jin@ARB <jin.xu@arb.ca.gov>; Smith, Noah <SMITH.NOAH@EPA.GOV>

Subject: Re: URGENT: Amador Ozone Emergency Episode Plan

Hi Panah,

The Amador Air District does not have it's own noticing rules and would follow the state's requirements. I will have Ms. Herminia Perry, from my office, respond tomorrow morning on when this was originally put out for public notice and when the document was changed with edits from CARB and/or EPA. It's appearing as though we may need to re-do the public notice period and re-schedule for the next Board meeting on 10/15/19.

Thanks, Jim

On Wed, Aug 14, 2019 at 3:49 PM Stauffer, Panah <Stauffer.Panah@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Jim,

Thanks very much for your message. Could you fill me in on the public notice for the new version of the plan- do you know when it was posted and whether there was newspaper notification of one or both versions?

Also, does the district have its own public notice requirements that are separate from the state's? I'm not familiar with all the different procedures.

Thanks for sharing your agenda deadline with me- this information will help me be responsive to it.

Best,

Panah

Panah Stauffer

Air Division (AIR-2)

US EPA Region 9

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

415-972-3247

From: Jim McHargue <jmchargue@amadorgov.org>

Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2019 2:31 PM

To: Stauffer, Panah <Stauffer.Panah@epa.gov>

Cc: Densberger, Matthew@ARB <Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov>; ray.kapahi@gmail.com; Herminia Perry <hperry@amadorgov.org>; Xu, Jin@ARB <jin.xu@arb.ca.gov>

Subject: Re: URGENT: Amador Ozone Emergency Episode Plan

Hello Panah,

Please let me know if you advise a postponement of this item to our next Board meeting on 10/15/19. We will need to publish the agenda notice tomorrow by noon. If more time is needed for review, comment, public notice, etc. we will certainly postpone.

Thanks, Jim

On Wed, Aug 14, 2019 at 12:54 PM Stauffer, Panah <Stauffer.Panah@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Everyone,

Thanks for your messages and nice to meet you all by email. This is page I am looking at online:

<https://www.amadorgov.org/home/showdocument?id=33507>

I am I looking at the correct document? I want to check that first before asking any more questions!

I also have the Word Doc dated August 1st that Matthew sent me today- thanks, Matthew!

Thanks a lot,

Panah

Panah Stauffer

Air Division (AIR-2)

US EPA Region 9

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

415-972-3247

From: Densberger, Matthew@ARB <Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2019 12:41 PM
To: Jim McHargue <jmchargue@amadorgov.org>; ray.kapahi@gmail.com; Stauffer, Panah <Stauffer.Panah@epa.gov>
Cc: Herminia Perry <hperry@amadorgov.org>; Xu, Jin@ARB <jin.xu@arb.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: URGENT: Amador Ozone Emergency Episode Plan

Jim, it appears I may have been incorrect. In rechecking the Amador website I believe the “final” version that I have is what is currently posted – with formatting edits. I do recall reading the prior version posted during the first week in August, but unfortunately I do not believe I have any notes as to the specific date. I have added Panah to the email in hopes she can help collaborate on the issues, as I am no longer certain on which version she was referring to when I last spoke with her and CARB staff believed the major issues had been addressed in the final version dated August 1, 2019.

Panah: Hope it’s ok to include you in this. If further edits or notice period is necessary, then the plan would be removed from the district’s board meeting next week and be delayed until October. Thought it best to bring everyone together to make certain the plan is ready and on track for approval, rather than risk confusion, especially if there are additional requirements from EPA.

Best Regards,

Matthew

From: Jim McHargue <jmchargue@amadorgov.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2019 12:08 PM
To: KapahiR . <ray.kapahi@gmail.com>
Cc: Densberger, Matthew@ARB <Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov>; Herminia Perry <hperry@amadorgov.org>
Subject: URGENT: Amador Ozone Emergency Episode Plan

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Ray,

Please see Matt Densberger's comments. Did EPA's comments get included in our update? Please advise me on the best way to proceed- postpone, accept comments after the fact as Matt has suggested? or proceed for approval on Tuesday 8/20?

Thanks, Jim

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Densberger, Matthew@ARB** <Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov>

Date: Wed, Aug 14, 2019 at 11:57 AM

Subject: RE: FW: Amador Ozone Emergency Episode Plan

To: Jim McHargue <jmchargue@amadorgov.org>

Cc: Mathew Peterson <mpeterson@amadorgov.org>, Herminia Perry <hperry@amadorgov.org>, Xu, Jin@ARB <jin.xu@arb.ca.gov>

Hello Jim,

When you have an opportunity, I need to discuss with you a few concerns about the Emergency Episode Plan expressed by Panah from EPA.

- 1) She was concerned that none of their comments were accounted for in the plan posted on the AAD website, which I assured was not the final we reviewed and I will send the final version we had received to her after this email.
- 2) Which lead to concern that the plan available for the public is not the same as what will go to the board and may not satisfy the public notice/comment requirements. I mentioned the district ***might*** be planning an additional comment period after the board, similar to what CARB does for late changes. She was uncertain if this is an option for the plan and would look into it at EPA.
- 3) Asked if the public notice was posted in a newspaper and not only the district website.

EPA is now well aware that some districts are needing more time to submit the Emergency Episode Plan and wanted Amador Air District to know you can submit it late if necessary.

Best Regards,

Matthew Densberger

Air Quality Analysis Section

California Air Resources Board | AQPSD

Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov

Ph# (916)324-7169

From: Densberger, Matthew@ARB
Sent: Thursday, August 08, 2019 9:33 AM
To: Jim McHargue <jmchargue@amadorgov.org>
Cc: Mathew Peterson <mpeterson@amadorgov.org>; Herminia Perry <hperry@amadorgov.org>; Xu, Jin@ARB <jin.xu@arb.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: FW: Amador Ozone Emergency Episode Plan

Hello Jim,

I am following up on the Emergency Episode Plan. Is everything still on track for your August Board meeting? We are also wondering how are the changes being handled for the final EEP?

Thanks and Best Regards,

Matthew

From: Jim McHargue <jmchargue@amadorgov.org>
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2019 9:51 AM
To: Densberger, Matthew@ARB <Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov>
Cc: Mathew Peterson <mpeterson@amadorgov.org>; Herminia Perry <hperry@amadorgov.org>
Subject: Re: FW: Amador Ozone Emergency Episode Plan

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Hello Matt,

Please see the draft EEP. This will be published for public comment on 7/20/19 and our Board meeting for approval will be 8/20/19. Please let me know if you have any input.

Thanks, Jim

On Mon, Jul 1, 2019 at 12:30 PM Densberger, Matthew@ARB <Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov> wrote:

Good morning Jim,

I hope your ozone Emergency Episode Plan is progressing well. We are wondering if you would like us (CARB) to do an unofficial review of your draft plan before it reaches public comment. Additionally, EPA has also offered to review district drafts as well, if you would like. Though we are unsure what their timeline might be to comment on draft plans, their staff seems quite eager to look through any district drafts that are offered. Ultimately, we both would be happy to provide assistance to help guide the plan to be approvable by EPA.

Happy early Fourth of July,

Matthew Densberger

From: Jim McHargue <jmchargue@amadorgov.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 18, 2019 9:27 AM
To: Densberger, Matthew@ARB <Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov>
Cc: Herminia Perry <hperry@amadorgov.org>
Subject: Re: FW: Amador Ozone Emergency Episode Plan

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Hello Matt,

We are on track to have our 30 day public comment period and then do formal Board adoption on August 20, 2019. I will contact you if we need any assistance in the meantime.

Thanks, Jim

On Fri, Jun 14, 2019 at 2:11 PM Densberger, Matthew@ARB <Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon Mr. McHargue,

I am following up on the Emergency Episode Plan for Amador County that we had discussed in May. How is your plan coming along? When we spoke last month it sounded like you were making excellent progress for completing the plan, comment period, and through your district board by late August. If you have any questions or need any assistance, please do not hesitate to ask.

Best Regards,

Matthew Densberger

Air Quality Analysis Section

California Air Resources Board | AQPSD

Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov

Ph# (916)324-7169

From: Jim McHargue <jmchargue@amadorgov.org>
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 5:02 PM
To: Densberger, Matthew@ARB <Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: FW: Amador Ozone Emergency Episode Plan

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Densberger:

I am out of the office today, but will report we have a completed draft Emergency Episode Plan and are currently performing additional review. Can you provide me with the statutory due date for this plan? I will be available Monday 5/20 to discuss this with you on telephone, my direct line is 209.223.6546.

Thanks, Jim

On Fri, May 17, 2019 at 4:55 PM Densberger, Matthew@ARB <Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov> wrote:

Hello Jim McHargue,

I am reaching out to you in the hope of hearing great news of progress, or at least a response of some sort. I have been trying to get into contact with Matt Peterson to discuss developing an Ozone Emergency Episode Plan for Amador County. This Plan is required by the U.S. EPA's State Implementation Plan requirements and we are seeking to get Ozone Emergency Plans through the necessary comment period and district board approval by early Fall.

I would be very grateful if you could help me get in contact with the person that is in charge of this project so that we may discuss further.

Thank you and Best Regards,

Matthew Densberger

Air Quality Analysis Section

California Air Resources Board | AQPSD

Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov

Ph# (916)324-7169

From: Densberger, Matthew@ARB
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2019 4:27 PM
To: mpeterson@amadorgov.org; airdistrict@amadorgov.org
Cc: Xu, Jin@ARB <jim.xu@arb.ca.gov>
Subject: RE: Amador Ozone Emergency Episode Plan

Good afternoon,

I am trying again to reach out to the Amador Air District.

This is about an earlier discussion with Matt Peterson for developing an Ozone Emergency Episode Plan in your district. Has there been any progress on the development of this plan, and when is the plan expected to go through public posting and your district board. This plan is necessary to fulfill U.S. EPA State Implementation Plan requirements.

Below is the link to El Dorado County AQMD's Ozone Emergency Episode Plan, for your reference.

<https://www.edcgov.us/Government/AirQualityManagement/documents/edcaqmd%20ozone%20emergency%20episode%20plan%20proposed%20final.pdf>

Our Air Quality Analysis Section has a new manager replacing Gayle Sweigert, Jin Xu at jin.xu@arb.ca.gov or (916)327-1511.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me back or call at (916)324-7169.

Best Regards,

Matthew Densberger

Air Quality Analysis Section

California Air Resources Board | AQPSD

Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov

Ph# (916)324-7169

From: Densberger, Matthew@ARB
Sent: Thursday, May 09, 2019 3:32 PM
To: mpeterson@amadorgov.org
Cc: Xu, Jin@ARB <jin.xu@arb.ca.gov>
Subject: Amador Ozone Emergency Episode Plan

Hello Matt,

I believe our section (most likely Jenette) had contacted you a few months ago to kick start development of an ozone Emergency Episode Plan for Amador county. I am following up to see if your plan has been progressing, and when the plan is expected to go through public posting and your district board.

Just in case you need it again, below is the link to El Dorado County AQMD's Ozone Emergency Episode Plan for your reference.

<https://www.edcgov.us/Government/AirQualityManagement/documents/edcaqmd%20ozone%20emergency%20episode%20plan%20proposed%20final.pdf>

Our Air Quality Analysis Section has a new manager replacing Gayle Sweigert, Jin Xu at jin.xu@arb.ca.gov or (916)327-1511.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me back or call at (916)324-7169.

Best Regards,

Matthew Densberger

Air Quality Analysis Section

California Air Resources Board | AQPSD

Matthew.Densberger@arb.ca.gov

Ph# (916)324-7169

Information about Ozone Emergency Episode Plans

The requirement for Ozone Emergency Episode Plans is for districts considered Priority I (based on 1-hour ozone concentrations) to have in place a federally approved Emergency Episode Plan. There are three levels of priority, with Priority I areas being those with the highest levels of ozone and Priority III areas the lowest levels. Priority III areas have no planning requirements.

A district would qualify as a Priority I area if a single 1-hour ozone reading over 100 ppb was measured over a three year period. On the other hand, an emergency would be triggered by very high levels of ozone (600 ppb averaged over two hours). Such levels have not, in fact, been experienced in districts without plans. With the threshold for needing a plan being very low, and the threshold for putting such a plan into effect being very high, many districts have not developed plans. U.S. EPA has not updated their thresholds for triggering needing to do a plan in decades. During those decades, air pollution control programs have developed and in fact ensure that we don't see 2-hour ozone levels in the range of 600 ppb. We've been in touch with EPA Region 9 staff. They understand this is an old requirement and will work with CARB and those districts without plans to develop them. As mentioned, EPA Region 9 would like to have the plan Summer 2019.

--

Jim McHargue, R.E.H.S.

Air Pollution Control Officer / Director of Solid Waste

Amador Air District (209) 257-0112

Waste Mgmt. and Recycling Dept. (209) 223-6429

810 Court Street
Jackson, CA 95642

--

Jim McHargue, R.E.H.S.

Air Pollution Control Officer / Director of Solid Waste

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